United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/L.61

Meeting of States Parties

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Arrangement for the allocation of seats on the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf*

Recalling the importance and past practice of reaching general agreement of all States parties on the allocations of seats,

1. The allocation of seats of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, providing that no regional group will have fewer than three seats. From the next election, the Tribunal shall have the following composition:

(a) Five members of the Tribunal shall be from the Group of African States;

(b) Five members of the Tribunal shall be from the Group of Asian States;

(c) Three members of the Tribunal shall be from the Group of Eastern European States;

(d) Four members of the Tribunal shall be from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States;

(e) Three members of the Tribunal shall be from the Group of Western European and other States;

(f) The remaining one member of the Tribunal shall be elected from among the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, and the Group of Western European and other States;

2. The allocation of seats of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, providing that no regional group will have fewer than three seats. From the next election, the Commission shall have the following composition:

(a) Five members of the Commission shall be from the Group of African States;

* Submitted by Norway on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States for consideration under item 14 of the provisional agenda of the nineteenth Meeting (SPLOS/L.59), entitled "The allocation of seats on the Commission and the Tribunal".

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(b) Five members of the Commission shall be from the Group of Asian States;

(c) Three members of the Commission shall be from the Group of Eastern European States;

(d) Four members of the Commission shall be from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States;

(e) Three members of the Commission shall be from the Group of Western European and other States;

(f) The remaining one member of the Commission shall be from among the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States, and the Group of Western European and other States;

3. The above arrangements do not prejudice or affect arrangements for future elections and do not constitute a precedent.